estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Use of Comments

All comments received in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 10, 1997.

David G. Unger, Associate Chief.

[FR Doc. 97-3626 Filed 2-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute, Board of Directors, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Oregon

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA. **ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute (BMNRI) Board of Directors will meet on March 11, 1997, at Oregon Department of Transportation Conference Room, 3012 Island Avenue, La Grande, Oregon, The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 4:00 p.m. Agenda items to be covered will include: (1) Program status; (2) research results of specific projects; (3) outreach activities; (4) identification of issues of interest; (5) budget and plan of work; (6) report on Initiatives; (7) presentation on Oregon Initiatives in natural resources; (8) public comments. All BMNRI Board Meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. Members of the public who wish to make a brief oral presentation at the meeting should contact Larry Hartmann, BMNRI, 1401 Gekeler Lane, La Grande, Oregon 97850, 541-962-6537, no later than March 7, 1997, to have time reserved on the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Larry Hartmann, Manager, BMNRI, 1401 Gekeler Lane, La Grande, Oregon 97850, 541–962–6537.

Dated: February 3, 1997.

Larry Hartmann,

Manager.

[FR Doc. 97–3590 Filed 2–12–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Inviting Preapplications for Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative

Service, USDA. **ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), an Agency within the Rural Development mission area, announces the availability of \$500,000 in competing Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) funds for fiscal year (FY) 1997 specifically for technical assistance for rural transportation systems. The funds are designed to assist private nonprofit corporations serving rural areas in providing technical assistance, for planning and developing transportation systems, and for training for rural communities needing improved passenger transportation systems or facilities in order to promote economic development through a link between transportation and economic development initiatives. The RBEG program is administered on behalf of RBS at the State level by the Rural Development State Offices.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of a preapplication in the Rural Development State Office is May 1, 1997. Preapplications received after that date will not be considered for FY 1997 funding.

ADDRESSES: Entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact the Rural Development State Offices to receive further information and copies of the preapplication package. A list of State Offices follows:

State Director, Rural Development, Sterling Center Suite 601, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106–3683, (332) 279–3400

State Director, Rural Development, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907) 745–2176

State Director, Rural Development, 3003 North Central Avenue, Suite 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012, (602) 280–8700

State Director, Rural Development, 700 West Capitol, P. O. Box 2778, Little Rock, AR 72203, (501) 324–6281

State Director, Rural Development, 194 West Main Street, Suite F, Woodland, CA 95695–2915, (916) 668–2000

State Director, Rural Development, 655 Parfet Street, Room E 100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (303) 236–2801

State Director, Rural Development, (Delaware and Maryland), 5201 South Dupont Highway, P. O. Box 400, Camden, DE 19934–9998, (302) 697– 4300

- State Director, Rural Development, 4440 NW 25th Place, P. O. Box 147010, Gainesville, FL 32614–7010, (352) 338–3400
- State Director, Rural Development, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601, (706) 546–2162
- State Director, Rural Development, Federal Building, Room 311, 154 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933–3000
- State Director, Rural Development, 3232 Elder Street, Boise, ID 83705, (208) 378–5600
- State Director, Rural Development, Illini Plaza, Suite 103, 1817 South Neil Street, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 398–5235
- State Director, Rural Development, 5975 Lakeside Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290–3100
- State Director, Rural Development, Federal Building, Rm 873, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284–4663
- State Director, Rural Development, 1200 SW Executive Drive, P.O. Box 4653, Topeka, KS 66604, (913) 271–2700
- State Director, Rural Development, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (606) 224–7300
- State Director, Rural Development, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473–7920
- State Director, Rural Development, 444 Stillwater Avenue, Suite 2, P.O. Box 405, Bangor, ME 04402–0405, (207) 990–9106
- State Director, Rural Development, (Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut), 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253–4300
- State Director, Rural Development, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 337–6635
- State Director, Rural Development, 410 Agri Bank Building, 375 Jackson Street, St Paul, MN 55101, (612) 290– 3842
- State Director, Rural Development, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 W Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965–4316
- State Director, Rural Development, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876–0976
- State Director, Rural Development, 900 Technology Blvd., Unit 1, Suite B, P.O. Box 850, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 585–2580
- State Director, Rural Development, Federal Building, Room 308, 100 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 437–5551
- State Director, Rural Development, 1390 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703–5405, (702) 887–1222